

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL without prejudice or disclaimer claims 1-11 the underlying PCT application and ADD new claims 12-14 in accordance with the following:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled)

12. (New) A method for operating a radio communication system with a radio access point and a plurality of radio stations, including a terminal radio station located outside of direct radio transmission range of the radio access point which requires path information about a path formed of at least one further radio station usable for message transfer between the radio access point and the terminal radio station, said method comprising:

learning, at the terminal radio station, about a requirement for the path information at the radio access point; and

initiating at the terminal radio station a method for determining the path between the terminal radio station and the radio access point.

13. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12,
wherein the radio communication system includes a base station located within a terminal radio coverage area of the radio access point and the terminal radio station is located within a second radio coverage area of the base station,

wherein said method further comprises notifying the base station by the radio access point about the requirement for the path information, and

wherein said learning by the terminal radio station about the requirement for the path information is a result of a notification by the base station.

14. (New) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein a known path between the terminal radio station and the radio access point formed of at least one further radio station is known to the terminal radio station and the radio access point, enabling data to be transferred from the terminal radio station to the radio access point and from the radio access point to the terminal radio station via the path, and

wherein said method further comprises

- receiving, at the radio access point, failure information about failure of the known path from a radio station of the path;
- learning at the terminal radio station about the failure of the known path after the radio access point learns about the failure; and
- initiating, at the terminal radio station, a method for determining a new path between the terminal radio station and the radio access point.

15. (New) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said learning about the failure of the known path at the radio access point results from information received in response to sending data from the radio access point to the terminal radio station.

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said method further comprises sending test data for the radio access point from the terminal radio station to determine whether the failure exists in the known path.

17. (New) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said sending of the test data takes place at regular time intervals.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said learning about the failure of the known path at the terminal radio station results from said sending of the test data to determine whether the failure exists in the known path.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said sending of the test data by the terminal radio station to determine whether the failure exists in the known path results from at least one notification sent as a result of a preceding determination of the known path.

20. (New) A radio station for a radio communication system comprising a radio access point and further radio stations, comprising:

- means for receiving a notification that the radio access point requires information about a path formed of at least one of the further radio stations which can be used for a message transfer between the radio access point and said radio station; and

- means for initiating a method for determining a path between said radio station and the radio access point following reception of the notification.

21. (New) A radio station for a radio communication system formed of a radio access point and further radio stations, comprising:

means for storing a path between said radio station and the radio access point, where the path is formed of at least one of the further radio stations and is used for transferring information from said radio station to the radio access point and from the radio access point to said radio station via the path;

means for sending test data for the radio access point to determine whether a failure of the path exists;

means for receiving and processing failure information about presence of a failure of the stored path; and

means for initiating a method to determine a new path between said radio station and the radio access point following reception of the failure information.

22. (New) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed control at least one processor in a radio station to perform a method comprising:

storing a path between the radio station and the radio access point, where the path is formed of at least one further radio station and is used for transferring information from the radio station to the radio access point and from the radio access point to the radio station via the path;

sending test data for the radio access point to determine whether a failure of the path exists;

receiving and processing failure information about presence of a failure of the stored path; and

initiating a method to determine a new path between the radio station and the radio access point following reception of the failure information.